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FOURTH ANNIVERSARY
OF CCC CELEBRATED
ON WILDLIFE REFUGE

U. S. BIOLOGICAL SURVEY
CONGRATULATES BOYS
ON "GOOD JOB"

C. C. C. boys doing development work on the St. Marks Migratory Bird Refuge in Wakulla, Jefferson, and Taylor Counties of Florida have done a good job, says Ira H. Gabrielson, Chief of the U. S. Biological Survey in congratulating the boys on the fourth anniversary of the C. C. C.

The St. Marks Camp is celebrating today (April 2) with tree plantings as part of a ^{Memorial} ^{add} program to ~~establish~~ 300 long-leaf pines ^{to} in the refuge. On Sunday (April 4) the boys are also having an open house and inviting visitors.

C. C. C. boys on seventeen wildlife refuges are contributing man-power for the Biological Survey's nation-wide refuge program, says the Bureau Chief. They are in general doing two important things, making the areas more attractive to the birds and making the refuges easier to administer.

One of these areas, the St. Marks Refuge, was established by Presidential proclamation on December 31, 1931, as a winter haven for wild ducks, geese, shorebirds, and other species. The sanctuary includes 53,317 acres.

The Canada goose is the most common visitor. During the winter of 1935-6 more than 9,000 of these birds were on the area. Countless numbers of ducks, especially scaups, black ducks, mallards, and pintails also winter on the refuge. Hundreds of gulls and terns remain on the sanctuary all winter, and it harbors many quails and turkeys, as well as minks, raccoons, deer, and otters.

The C. C. C. boys' accomplishments make these wild creatures feel at home on the St. Marks Refuge, says the Biological Survey Chief. The boys worked from June 27, 1933 up until May 28, 1934, and then started again on April 28, 1935. They have cleared 30 acres and built a diversion dam to create a fresh water lake for waterfowl, and have excluded salt water from other refuge areas. To keep out salt water they excavated 154,067 cubic yards for levees and dikes and jetties. All this makes St. Marks a more attractive place for waterfowl.

Other work, says the Survey, has been done to facilitate administration of the refuge and protection of the wildlife. The C. C. C. boys have built a dwelling for the refuge manager, a garage, and five other necessary buildings at headquarters. They constructed 30 miles of telephone line and 4-1/2 miles of power line. They built two lookout towers where observers can spot law violators and fires, and 21-1/2 miles of fire break and 34 miles of truck trail. They have done many other things too--spent 416 days fighting forest fires, made topographic surveys of 13,760 acres, ran 60 miles of lineal surveys, tore down old undesirable structures and landscaped the headquarters grounds.

"This work", says Dr. Gabrielson, "is part of the restoration of our American wildlife, an invaluable resource of great benefit to all Americans. The next time that you see a wedge of Canada geese passing high overhead, or hear their thrilling 'honks', you can say to yourself, 'well, it may be that those 'honkers' are up there because the C. C. C. boys have been doing a good job down at St. Marks Migratory Bird Refuge'"
